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General Assembly

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Forty-sixth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 59

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons: measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and the continuing validity of the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

Recalling its previous resolutions, and those adopted by the Security Council, on the use of chemical weapons,

Reaffirming in particular its resolution 45/57 C of 4 December 1990 on measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Protocol and resolution 45/57 A of 4 December 1990 urging the early conclusion of a chemical weapons convention,

Deploring all threats including especially those made most recently of use of chemical weapons,

1. Condemns vigorously all actions that violate or threaten to violate the obligations assumed under the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, 1/ and other relevant provisions of international law;

2. Renews its call to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the 1925 Geneva Protocol, and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

3. Welcomes in this context recent decisions, declarations and initiatives of the United Nations and in particular the Security Council aimed at upholding the authority of the Geneva Protocol and removing the threat of chemical weapons use;

4. Supports as well other similar activities of regional and international disarmament conferences and parallel decisions by national Governments, also aimed at hastening the conclusion of the chemical weapons convention as a step towards the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction.

1/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

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Agenda item 60 (1)

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay: draft resolution

Regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/116 S, 44/116 U and 44/117 B of 15 December 1989 and 45/58 M and 45/58 P of 4 December 1990,

Considering that the adoption of regional disarmament measures is one of the most effective means by which States can contribute to international security, arms limitation and disarmament,

Recognizing that the regional and global approaches to disarmament complement each other and can be pursued simultaneously in the promotion of regional and international peace and security,

Noting that the recent events in the Middle East have underlined the importance of regional disarmament and that they justify in particular the search for a balanced and comprehensive control of armaments in the region, notably through a dialogue among the States of that region,

Convinced that disarmament can be carried out only in a climate of confidence based on mutual respect and aimed at ensuring better relations founded on justice, solidarity and cooperation,

Noting that the consumption of resources for potentially destructive purposes is in stark contrast to the need for social and economic development but that reduction in military expenditure following, inter alia, the conclusion of regional disarmament agreements could entail benefits in both the social and economic fields,

Considering that regional disarmament measures should be aimed at establishing a military balance at the lowest level while not diminishing the security of each State and at eliminating as a matter of priority the capability for large-scale offensive action and surprise attacks,

Noting that disarmament measures in one region should not lead to increased arms transfers to other regions,

Considering that measures of transparency are one of the essential elements in the implementation of regional disarmament,

Persuaded that verification measures are important to ensure compliance with regional agreements on arms control and disarmament,

1. Reaffirms that the regional approach to disarmament is one of the essential elements in the global process of disarmament;

2. Is convinced of the importance and effectiveness of regional disarmament measures taken at the initiative of States of the region and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, in that they can contribute to the security and stability of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in compliance with international law and existing treaties;

3. Stresses the importance of confidence-building measures in ensuring the success of this process;

4. Notes with satisfaction the important progress made in various regions of the world through the conclusion of peace, security and cooperation agreements and following from the implementation of measures intended to enhance confidence in the fields of political, economic and military cooperation;

5. Affirms that regional and subregional agreements on arms control and disarmament can contribute to the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts;

6. Recognizes the useful role played by the regional centres of the United Nations;

7. Encourages States of the same region to examine the possibility of creating, on their own initiative, regional mechanisms and/or institutions for the establishment of measures in the framework of an effort of regional disarmament or for the prevention and the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts with the assistance, if requested, of the United Nations;

8. Stresses that confidence-building measures, including objective information on military activities and capabilities, are essential to the promotion of arms control and disarmament at the regional level;

9. Believes that regional initiatives should enjoy the support of all States of the region concerned and the respect of those outside that region;

10. Invites and encourages all States to conclude, whenever possible, agreements on disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional level.